

AMENDMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.111
U.S. Appln. No. 10/725,348
Attorney Docket No.: Q78682

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

1. (currently amended): A printing apparatus comprising:

a plurality of ink ejecting sections for ejecting ink,

wherein said printing apparatus prints an image on a medium to be printed by ejecting ink from said ink ejecting sections; and

wherein said ink ejecting sections include comprise:

a first ink ejecting section that is set to eject ink for printing a highlight region in said image, and

a second ink ejecting section that is set not to eject the ink for printing said highlight region in said image, and

wherein said first ink ejecting section and said second ink ejecting section are provided at different positions in a direction in which the medium to be printed is carried.

2. (original): A printing apparatus according to claim 1, wherein:

said image is printed with dots that are in at least two sizes and that are formed with the ink ejected from said ink ejecting sections; and

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among said dots that are in said at least two sizes, dots that are formed for printing said highlight region with the ink ejected from said first ink ejecting section are dots other than dots of the largest size.

3. (original): A printing apparatus according to claim 2, wherein:

among said dots other than the dots of the largest size, the dots that are formed for printing said highlight region with the ink ejected from said first ink ejecting section are dots of the smallest size.

4. (original): A printing apparatus according to claim 1, wherein:

said image is printed with at least two kinds of dots formed using a plurality of kinds of inks that differ in darkness and that are ejected from said ink ejecting sections; and among said at least two kinds of dots, dots that are formed for printing said highlight region with the ink ejected from said first ink ejecting section are dots formed using ink other than the darkest ink.

5. (original): A printing apparatus according to claim 4, wherein:

among said dots formed using ink other than the darkest ink, the dots that are formed for printing said highlight region with the ink ejected from said first ink ejecting section are dots formed using the lightest ink.

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6. (original): A printing apparatus according to claim 4, wherein:
said inks that differ in darkness include cyan ink, light cyan ink that is lighter than said cyan ink, magenta ink, and light magenta ink that is lighter than said magenta ink; and the dots that are formed for printing said highlight region with the ink ejected from said first ink ejecting section are dots formed using said light cyan ink and said light magenta ink.

7. (original): A printing apparatus according to claim 1, wherein:
when assuming that a darkness level of the darkest region in said image is 100 %, the darkness level of said highlight region is at most 35 %.

8. (original): A printing apparatus according to claim 1, wherein:
said printing apparatus further comprises
a holding section for movably holding said ink ejecting sections, and
a moving member that engages said holding section and that is for causing said holding section to move;
said dots are formed by ejecting ink from said ink ejecting sections while causing said holding section to move using said moving member; and
said first ink ejecting section is an ink ejecting section, among said ink ejecting sections, that is located on the side closer to an engaging section where said holding section and said moving member engage.

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9. (original): A printing apparatus according to claim 8, wherein:

said ink ejecting sections are grouped into at least two groups;

each group of said ink ejecting sections forms an ink ejecting unit; and

said ink ejecting section that is located on the side closer to said engaging section is an ink ejecting section that is included in an ink ejecting unit that is located on the side closer to said engaging section.

10. (original): A printing apparatus according to claim 9, wherein:

all of said ink ejecting sections are allowed to eject ink for printing regions other than said highlight region.

11. (original): A printing apparatus according to claim 1, wherein:

the setting for said ink ejecting sections is changed according to print modes.

12. (original): A printing apparatus according to claim 1, wherein:

said medium to be printed is printed on while being carried in a predetermined direction;

said ink ejecting sections are arranged in a row in the direction in which said medium to be printed is carried to form a row of ink ejecting sections; and

said first ink ejecting section is at most half of continuously-arranged ink ejecting sections among all ink ejecting sections belonging to said row of ink ejecting sections.

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13. (currently amended): A printing apparatus comprising:

a plurality of ink ejecting sections for ejecting ink, wherein:

said printing apparatus prints an image on a medium to be printed by ejecting ink from said ink ejecting sections;

said ink ejecting sections ~~include~~ comprise:

a first ink ejecting section that is set to eject ink for printing a highlight region in said image, said highlight region being a region in which, when assuming that a darkness level of the darkest region in said image is 100 %, the darkness level of said highlight region is at most 35 %, and

a second ink ejecting section that is set not to eject the ink for printing said highlight region in said image;

wherein:

said first ink ejecting section and said second ink ejecting section are provided at different positions in a direction in which the medium to be printed is carried;

all of said ink ejecting sections are allowed to eject ink for printing regions other than said highlight region;

the setting for said ink ejecting sections is changed according to print modes;

said image is printed with at least two kinds of dots that are formed with the ink ejected from said ink ejecting sections and that are formed

by dots that are in at least two sizes and that are formed with the ink ejected from said ink ejecting sections, and

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by using cyan ink, light cyan ink that is lighter than said cyan ink, magenta ink, and light magenta ink that is lighter than said magenta ink, which differ in darkness; the dots that are formed for printing said highlight region with the ink ejected from said first ink ejecting section are either

dots of the smallest size among said dots that are in at least two sizes, or

dots formed using said light cyan ink and said light magenta ink;

said printing apparatus further comprises

a holding section for movably holding said ink ejecting sections, and

a moving member that engages said holding section and that is for causing said holding section to move;

said ink ejecting sections are grouped into at least two groups;

each group of said ink ejecting sections forms an ink ejecting unit;

said dots are formed by ejecting ink from said ink ejecting sections while causing said holding section to move using said moving member;

said first ink ejecting section is an ink ejecting section, among said ink ejecting sections, that is included in an ink ejecting unit located on the side closer to an engaging section where said holding section and said moving member engage;

said medium to be printed is printed on while being carried in a predetermined direction;

said ink ejecting sections are arranged in a row in the direction in which said medium to be printed is carried to form a row of ink ejecting sections; and

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said first ink ejecting section is at most half of continuously-arranged ink ejecting sections among all ink ejecting sections belonging to said row of ink ejecting sections.

14. (currently amended): A computer-readable storage medium having recorded thereon a program for causing

a printing apparatus comprising a plurality of ink ejecting sections for ejecting ink, wherein said printing apparatus prints an image on a medium to be printed by ejecting ink from said ink ejecting sections; and

wherein said ink ejecting sections include comprise:

a first ink ejecting section that is set to eject ink for printing a highlight region in said image, and

a second ink ejecting section that is set not to eject the ink for printing said highlight region in said image; and

wherein said first ink ejecting section and said second ink ejecting section are provided at different positions in a direction in which the medium to be printed is carried;

to print said highlight region by making said first ink ejecting section eject ink.

15. (currently amended): A computer system comprising:

a computer; and

a printing apparatus that is connected to said computer and that includes a plurality of ink ejecting sections for ejecting ink,

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wherein said printing apparatus prints an image on a medium to be printed by ejecting ink from said ink ejecting sections; and

wherein said ink ejecting sections include comprise:

a first ink ejecting section that is set to eject ink for printing a highlight region in said image, and

a second ink ejecting section that is set not to eject the ink for printing said highlight region in said image; and

wherein said first ink ejecting section and said second ink ejecting section are provided at different positions in a direction in which the medium to be printed is carried.

16. (currently amended): A method for printing using a printing apparatus that includes a plurality of ink ejecting sections for ejecting ink,

wherein said printing apparatus prints an image on a medium to be printed by ejecting ink from said ink ejecting sections; and

wherein said ink ejecting sections include comprise:

a first ink ejecting section that is set to eject ink for printing a highlight region in said image, and

a second ink ejecting section that is set not to eject the ink for printing said highlight region in said image; and

wherein said first ink ejecting section and said second ink ejecting section are provided at different positions in a direction in which the medium to be printed is carried.

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said method comprising the step of:

printing an image by causing said first ink ejecting section and said second ink ejecting section to eject ink.

17. (currently amended): A method for manufacturing a printed article that is printed using a printing apparatus that includes a plurality of ink ejecting sections for ejecting ink, wherein said printing apparatus prints an image on a medium to be printed by ejecting ink from said ink ejecting sections; and

wherein said ink ejecting sections ~~include~~ comprise:

a first ink ejecting section that is set to eject ink for printing a highlight region in said image, and

a second ink ejecting section that is set not to eject the ink for printing said highlight region in said image; and

wherein said first ink ejecting section and said second ink ejecting section are provided at different positions in a direction in which the medium to be printed is carried,

said method comprising the step of:

printing an image by causing said first ink ejecting section and said second ink ejecting section to eject ink.

18. (currently amended): A printing apparatus comprising:
a plurality of ink ejecting sections for ejecting ink,

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wherein said printing apparatus prints an image on a medium to be printed by ejecting ink from said ink ejecting sections; **and**

wherein said ink ejecting sections are provided at different positions from on another in a direction in which the medium to be printed is carried; and

wherein the ink ejecting section to be used for ejecting ink to print a portion of said image is determined, from among said ink ejecting sections, according to the darkness of said portion.

19. (new): A printing apparatus comprising:

a plurality of print heads for ejecting ink, each of said print heads having at least a black nozzle row, cyan nozzle row, magenta nozzle row and yellow nozzle row,

wherein said printing apparatus prints an image on a medium to be printed by ejecting ink from said print heads;

wherein said print heads comprise:

a first print head that is set to eject ink for printing a highlight region in said image, and

a second print head that is set not to eject the ink for printing said highlight region in said image; and

wherein said first print head and said second print head are provided at different positions in a direction in which the medium to be printed is carried.

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20. (new): A printing apparatus comprising:

a plurality of print heads for ejecting ink, each of said print heads having at least a black nozzle row, cyan nozzle row, magenta nozzle row and yellow nozzle row,
wherein said printing apparatus prints an image on a medium to be printed by ejecting ink from said print heads;

wherein the print head are provided at different positions from one another in a direction in which the medium to be printed is carried; and

wherein the print head to be used for ejecting ink to print a portion of said image is determined, from among said print heads, according to the darkness of said portion.